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Regular Resignations Get DOD Green Light

The Services late this week were preparing new policy statements regarding resignations from active duty of Regular and non-Regular officers.

Assistant Defense Secretary John A. Hannah opened the doors to the liberalized resignation policy at a press conference this week. He was speaking particularly of the Air Force, but indicated that policies would be similar in all the Armed Forces.

The Services, anxious to keep force-outs at a minimum and to maintain maximum morale, have wanted to put into effect eased rules for acceptance of resignations.

This was done for non-Regulars during recent weeks, with Defense Department approval, but the Services have not until now been given the green light on permitting Regulars to go off active duty.

Pending issuance of any formal regulations, it can be taken for granted that the interpretation of what is a "hardship" will be greatly broadened to permit many Regulars to leave the Service.

These Regulars will forfeit, of course, their retirement rights, Dr. Hannah said.